Amendment to the Claims:

Listing of the Claims:

1. (previously presented) A method of aggregating a plurality of entries in a table in a database management system into an aggregated entry in the table or another table in the database management system, the method comprising the steps of:

making the aggregated entry, the aggregated entry representing the plurality of entries and including a field whose value is a representation of a set of individual members, the individual members being derived from values contained in entries belonging to the plurality of the entries, the representation specifying the individual members of the set.

2. (original) The method set forth in claim 1 further comprising the step of:

deleting the plurality of entries represented by the aggregated entry.

3. (previously presented) The method set forth in claim 1 wherein:

the representation of the set has a size which varies with the number of the individual members specified in the representation.

4. (previously presented) The method set forth in claim 3 wherein:

The representation of the set comprises a character string, the character string comprising a sequence of characters for each individual member of the set, and separator characters separating each sequence of characters.

5. (previously presented) The method set forth in claim 1 wherein:

the representation of the set has a size which is constant regardless of the number of the individual members in the set.

6. (previously presented) The method set forth in claim 5 wherein:

the representation of the set comprises a string of elements, the string of element comprising an element corresponding to each potential member of the set, the presence of a particular individual member in the set being indicated by a first value of the

corresponding element and the absence of the particular individual member from the set being indicated by a second value of the corresponding element.

7. (previously presented) The method set forth in claim 1 wherein:

in deriving the individual members of the set, the values from which the individual members of the set are derived are time values.

8. (previously presented) The method set forth in claim 1 wherein:

in deriving the individual members of the set, the values from which the individual members of the set are derived are location values.

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25. (previously presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:

the data storage device contains code which when executed by a processor performs aggregation of a plurality of entries in a table in a database management system

into an aggregated entry in the table or another table in the database management system, the code comprising instructions for:

making the aggregated entry, the aggregated entry representing the plurality of entries and including a field whose value is a representation of a set of individual members, the individual members being derived from values contained in entries belonging to the plurality of the entries, the representation specifying the individual members of the set.

26. (previously presented) The data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that:

the code further comprises instructions for

deleting the plurality of entries represented by the aggregated entry.

27. (previously presented) The data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that:

the representation of the set has a size which varies with the number of the individual members specified in the representation.

28. (previously presented) The data storage device set forth in claim 27 further characterized in that:

The representation of the set comprises a character string, the character string comprising a sequence of characters for each individual member of the set, and separator characters separating each sequence of characters.

29. (previously presented) The data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that:

the representation of the set has a size which is constant regardless of the number of the individual members in the set.

30. (previously presented) The data storage device set forth in claim 29 further characterized in that:

the representation of the set comprises a string of elements, the string of elements comprising an element corresponding to each potential member of the set, the presence of a particular individual member in the set being indicated by a first value of the corresponding element and the absence of the particular individual member from the set being indicated by a second value of the corresponding element.

31. (previously presented) The data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that:

in deriving the individual members of the set, the values from which the individual members of the set are derived are time values.

32. (previously presented) The data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that:

in deriving the individual members of the set, the values from which the individual members of the set are derived are location values.

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